AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 14 as follows:

Also, as the alkylene group, the cycloalkylene group or the arylene group in the case where two R^3s, in the formula, are united to form an alkylene group, a cycloalkylene group or an arylene group, a divalent group which is formed by removal of one hydrogen atom from the above-mentioned alkyl group, cycloalkyl group and aryl group, respectively, is included. As the alkylene group, for example, a linear or branched alkylene group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, preferably, 1 to 10 carbon atoms, more preferably, 1 to 6 carbon atoms is included, and more specifically, for example, a methylene group, an ethylene group, a trimethylene group, a methylethylene group, ~~a propylene group,~~ a tetramethylene group, a 1,2-dimethylethylene group, a pentamethylene group, a hexamethylene group and the like are included.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 2 as follows:

In the above-mentioned general formulae [5] and [6], as the anion group represented by X^2, for example, besides a halide ion such as a chloride ion, a bromide ion or an iodide ion, various anion groups such as a hypochlorite ion, a perchlorate ion, a trifluoromethanesulfonate ion, a pentafluorobenzenesulfonate ~~ion~~ ion, a tetrafluoroborate ion, a hexafluorophosphate ion, a p-toluenesulfonate ion, a benzenesulfonate ion, a methanesulfonate ion, a hydroxide ion, a trifluoroacetate ion, a pentafluorobenzoate ion, an acetate ion, a benzoate ion and a tartrate ion are included.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 23, line 10 as follows:

Elementary analysis, calculated as ~~$C_{20}H_{29}ON_2P$~~$C_{20}H_{19}ON_2P$: C, 71.85; H, 5.73; N, 8.38%. Found: C, 71.83; H, 5.64; N, 8.30%.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 24 as follows:

In a glass container, 0.285 g (1.0 mmol) of 1-bromo-4- octyloxybenzene and 0.030 g (1.25 mmol) of metallic magnesium were mixed in tetrahydrofuran (1mL), heated to 50°C and stirred for 30 minutes. The obtained solution of 4-octyloxyphenylmagnesium bromide (in the

general formula [8], R^1 = a 4-octyloxyphenyl group and M = a bromomagnesio group) was mixed with 0.210 g (1.0 mmol) of 2,5-diaza-2,5-dimethyl-l-oxo-l-phenoxy-phosphorane (in the general formula [7], R^2 = a methyl group, X^3 = a phenoxy group and two R^3s are united to form an ethylene group) and stirred for 7 days at 67°C. To the obtained mixture, 0.2 ml, of water was added, and after a solid substance was removed by filtration, the filtrate was concentrated under a reduced pressure. The obtained oily substance was purified by silica gel column chromatography using diethyl ether as an eluent to obtain 0.196 g (0.58 mmol) of 2,5-diaza-2,5-dimethyl-l-(4-octyloxyphenyl)-l-oxophosphorane (in the general formula [1], R^1 = a 4-octyloxyphenyl group, R^2 = a methyl group and two R^3s are united to form an ethylene group). This compound is a novel compound which has not been described in a published article.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 27, line 22 as follows:

Elementary analysis, calculated as $C_{18}H_{31}O_2N_2P$: C, 63.88; H, 9.23; N, 8.28%. Found: C, 63.57; H, 9.45; N, 8.19%.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 20 as follows:

Elementary analysis, calculated as ~~$C_{36}H_{33}ON_2P$~~$C_{36}H_{53}ON_2P$: C, 77.10; H, 9.53; N, 5.00%. Found: C, 77.24; H, 9.56; N, 4.99%.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 29, line 15 as follows:

Elementary analysis, calculated as ~~$C_{36}H_{33}O_3N_2P$~~$C_{36}H_{53}O_3N_2P$: C, 72.94; H, 9.01; N, 4.73%. Found: C, 72.90; H, 9.01; N, 5.01%.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 30, line 13 as follows:

Elementary analysis, calculated as ~~$C_{36}H_{33}ON_2P$~~$C_{36}H_{53}ON_2P$: C, 77.10; H, 9.53; N, 5.00%. Found: C, 77.00; H, 9.68; N, 5.03%.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 30, line 17 as follows:

In a glass container, 1.13 g (2.0 mmol) of N,N'-bis(p-octyloxyphenyl)phenylphosphonamide (in the general formula [9], R^1 = a phenyl group and R^3 = a p-octyloxyphenyl group), 1 mL of methyl iodide (in the general formula [10], R^3 = a methyl group and X^4 = an iodine atom), 0.3 g of sodium hydride and 20 mL of acetonitrile were mixed and the mixture was stirred for 24 hours at room temperature. After a solid substance was removed by filtrating the reaction mixture, 0.834 g (1.41 mmol) of N,N'-bis(p-octyloxyphenyl)-N,N'-dimethylphenylphosphonamide (in the general formula [1], R^1 = a phenyl group, ~~R2~~ R^2 a methyl group and a R^3 =a p-octyloxyphenyl group) was obtained by purifying the residue, which was obtained by concentrating the filtrate, by silica gel chromatography using ether as an eluent. This compound is a novel compound which has not been described in a published article.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 31, line 12 as follows:

Elementary analysis, calculated as ~~$C_{36}H_{33}O_3N_2P$~~ $C_{36}H_{53}O_3N_2P$: C, 72.94; H, 9.01; N, 4.73%. Found: C, 72.85; H, 9.07; N, 4.99%.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 36, line 22 as follows:

To 4 mL of 1 mol/L nitric acid aqueous solution containing 1.00×10^{-4} mol/L trivalent lanthanum ions and 1.00×10^{-4} mol/L trivalent europium ions, 4 mL of dodecane solution containing various concentrations of the phosphonamide compound obtained in Example 8 (in the general formula [1], R^1 = 4-octyloxyphenyl group, R^2 = a methyl group and two R3s are united to form an ethylene group) was added and shaken for 10 minutes at 25°C. After the layer separation, the concentrations of trivalent lanthanum ions and trivalent europium ions remaining in the aqueous solution were measured by ICP emission spectrochemical analysis and the extraction ratios of trivalent lanthanum and trivalent europium ions were calculated. The results are shown in Table 2 where A denotes mmol of the phosphonamide compound.